

PHARMACEUTICALS

Philippines

Market Overview

- The \$1.0 billion Philippine pharmaceutical market is growing 5.5% annually, with imports meeting 65% of demand.
- Major disease states include hypertension and renal disorders, as well as poverty-related diseases such as malaria, hepatitis, typhoid and gastrointestinal disorders.
- ▶ 85% of pharmaceutical products are sold through drug stores, 15% through hospitals and doctors' clinics. Drugs represent 40% of healthcare spending.
- Drug price increases slightly trail CPI increases due to heavy competition and despite the lack of government price controls.
- Philippine Bureau of Food and Drugs has a drug review system patterned after the U.S. FDA.
- Multinational companies comprise 70% of the market, with local companies meeting 30% of demand. Local companies import roughly 80% of their raw materials.

Commercial Opportunities

- Strong demand exists for maintenance medications (i.e. cardiovascular), vaccinations and OTC products.
- Demand is also booming for clinical laboratory kits to test the 1 million+ new Filipino contract workers, who go to work abroad each year.
- The recommended strategy for new market entrants is to find a local agent. An agency arrangement should be backed by an aggressive marketing campaign and sales support.

PHARMACEUTICAL IMPORT MARKET (In USD Millions)

	2002	2003	2004
Total Market	890	933	980
Local Production	312	331	348
Imports	578	602	632

Note: 2004 statistics are projected from official 2003 numbers.

